

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 066449

ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 DODE-00 SIG-01 MMO-01 /046 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:SMECTON:KAM

APPROVED BY EA:WHGLEYSTEN

NSC:MARMACOST

EA/J:WCSHERMAN

-----250425Z 093648 /61

P 250220Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066449

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA

SUBJECT: CARTER-FUKUDA MEETING

1. SUMMARY: THE FUKUDA-CARTER TALKS MARCH 21-22 IN WASHINGTON PRODUCED NO SURPRISES. REFLECTING THE INCREASINGLY PROMINENT MULTILATERAL DIMENSION OF US-JAPAN RELATIONS, DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC RECOVERY, AND BROAD POLITICAL AND SECURITY QUESTIONS. FUKUDA PUSHED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO HAVE THE US GROUND TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA TERMED "REDUCTION" RATHER THAN "WITHDRAWAL"; AND SOUGHT SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR JAPAN'S NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PROGRAM ON GROUNDS THAT JAPAN IS TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON OUTSIDE SOURCES FOR ITS ENERGY REQUIREMENTS. THE PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE IMPORTANCE OF A MORE ACTIVE JAPANESE ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA MET IN  
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WASHINGTON ON MARCH 21-22 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITIES. THERE WERE TWO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS AND A WHITE HOUSE DINNER HOSTED BY THE PRESIDENT. THE SECRETARY HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR THE PRIME MINISTER. THE TALKS WERE CONDUCTED IN A FRANK, CORDIAL, BUSINESSLIKE MANNER WITH NO ATTEMPT TO MUFFLE DISAGREEMENTS. THE PRIME MINISTER ISSUED AN OPEN INVITATION TO THE PRESIDENT TO

VISIT JAPAN; THE PRESIDENT STATED THE US'S BELIEF THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL.

3. ASIA. THE PRESIDENT STRONGLY REAFFIRMED THE US INTENTION TO REMAIN AN ASIAN POWER AND ITS COMMITMENT TO REMAIN IN ASIA. THE PRESIDENT STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SECURITY TREATY WITH JAPAN TO US ASIAN POLICY AND THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE IN THE REGION. THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER IDENTIFIED CONTINUED COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE WITH THE ASEAN NATIONS AS AN IMPORTANT SHARED OBJECTIVE ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFICS WERE DISCUSSED. THE PRESIDENT SAID PUBLICLY SEVERAL TIMES THAT JAPAN SHOULD PLAY A MORE ACTIVE POLITICAL ROLE IN ASIA AND A MORE ACTIVE ECONOMIC ROLE GLOBALLY.

4. KOREA. THE PRESIDENT REAFFIRMED THAT GROUND TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM KOREA WOULD PROCEED IN WAYS WHICH WOULD NOT ENDANGER STABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. HE REEMPHASIZED THAT THE US REMAINS COMMITTED TO THE DEFENSE OF THE ROK. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT AS WE MOVE AHEAD WITH PHASED WITHDRAWAL THAT WE WOULD TAKE STEPS TO INSURE THAT THE ROK WILL HAVE ADEQUATE GROUND FORCES TO DEFEND ITSELF AND THAT OUR AIR FORCE WILL REMAIN. FUKUDA URGED A CAUTIOUS APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM BECAUSE OF THE "PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT" WITHDRAWAL MIGHT HAVE ELSEWHERE IN ASIA. THE JAPANESE ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE PRESIDENT USE "REDUCTION" RATHER THAN "WITHDRAWAL" IN THE COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE BUT THE PRESIDENT

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SAID THAT HE HAD MADE A PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO WITHDRAWAL. NO DISCUSSIONS OF THE MECHANICS, TIMING, OR MANNER OF IMPLEMENTATION OF TROOP WITHDRAWAL WERE DISCUSSED. THE PRESIDENT PROMISED FULL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ROK AND GOJ AS DECISIONS DEVELOPED.

5. DEFENSE. THE PRESIDENT POINTED OUT THAT WE HAVE A HEAVY BURDEN IN DEFENSE COMPARED TO THE APPROXIMATELY 1 PERCENT GNP DEFENSE SPENDING OF JAPAN. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER RESTRAINTS ON JAPAN IN THE DEFENSE AREA, BUT HE SAID THAT THE CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEFENSE BURDEN. HE SUGGESTED THAT JAPAN SHOULD UPGRADE ITS DEFENSE CAPACITY WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN ASW AND AIR DEFENSE.

6. UN SECURITY COUNCIL. THE PRESIDENT REAFFIRMED IN HIS TOAST AT THE WHITE HOUSE DINNER THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND PROMISED

US SUPPORT FOR JAPANESE EFFORTS; HOWEVER, BOTH SIDES  
REALIZED THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED.

7. INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS. DURING THE VISIT FUKUDA MADE  
SEVERAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC  
RECOVERY TO THE HEALTH OF THE FREE WORLD'S POLITICAL INSTI-  
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8. BILATERAL TRADE. THE PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED THE IMPACT  
ON US EMPLOYMENT OF RAPID JAPANESE EXPORTS OF COLOR TV.  
IT WAS AGREED THAT GOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE  
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9. NUCLEAR REPROCESSING AND ENERGY. THE PRESIDENT  
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-02 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/RPE:REBRESLER

APPROVED BY: EUR/RPE:EACASEY

EA/J:DSMITH

-----032040Z 045700 /41

R 031930Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066449

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT STATE 066449, SENT ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC  
DIPLOMATIC POSTS 25 MARCH:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066449

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA

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10. POSTS MAY DRAW ON ABOVE IN DISCUSSING VISIT WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS. VANCE UNQUOTE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, JA, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (FUKUDA, TAKEO)  
**To:** EA POSTS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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